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**Sent:** Thursday, January 19, 2006 12:49 PM  
**To:** MLPACComments@resources.ca.gov  
**Subject:** MLPACComments: BRTF Jan. 31, 2006 meeting

Blue Ribbon Task Force  
California Marine Life Protection Act Initiative

Dear Task Force Members:

First, thank you for your service and that of the staff and consultants. It offers leadership to communities around the world in respecting and protecting life in its immense variety. From food to recreation, by-the-wind sailor to humpback whales, surfing swells to nurturing abalone, and so much more—the Pacific Ocean offers our curiosity and humility opportunities beyond measure.

Second, I write to commend the members of the Central Coast Regional Stakeholder Group. Having read many of their materials and been able to attend one meeting, I am impressed with their ability to work for the common welfare of

- ocean life,
- diverse ecological, social, and economic needs,
- and humans as participants in, rather than extrinsic owners of, the marine world.

Third, I agree with the request on p. 13 of Package One (quoting the Consensus Conference) that marine reserves “should not be simply layered over existing regulations” of fishery management. At the same time, protecting multiple species, rather than regulating one at a time, provides wisdom in both short and long-term.

Finally, I hope you will give strong support at your January 2006 meeting to the MPAs proposed for Piedras Blancas and the Cambria area by Package 2. Preserving and protecting for the sake of the great-grandchildren of both human and marine life: nothing surpasses this criterion.

Living in Cambria, walking the beaches of San Luis Obispo County, and volunteering at Point Piedras Blancas—what a privilege! With such privilege comes the responsibility to learn daily about this complex ocean and our dependence on it now and in all the future.

Sincerely yours,  
Elizabeth Bettenhausen